

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1

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|----------------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| COUNTRY | East Germany | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | Snake Venom Research at VEB Serumwerk, Dessau | DATE DISTR. | 12 October 1953 |
| DATE OF INFO. | | NO. OF PAGES | 5 |
| PLACE ACQUIRED | | REQUIREMENT | |
| | | REFERENCES | |

50X1-HUM

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

50X1-HUM

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| STATE | #x | ARMY | #x | NAVY | #x | AIR | #x | FBI | AEC | OSI Ev | x | | |
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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S E C R E T
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY : East Germany (Zone)
 SUBJECT: Snake Venom Research at VEB Serumwerk,
 Dessau

DATE DISTR: SEPT 53

NO. OF PAGES : 4

PLACE
ACQUIRED :NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
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REPORT NO.

DATE OF IN

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. VEB Serumwerk, Dessau, still familiarly known to many in East Germany by its former name, "ASID", is located in Dessau [see Page 3 which shows its approximate position in that city]. The snake section of the Serumwerk occupies the second floor of building B [see Page 3].

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2. [] sketch of the snake room, or "snake farm" as it is commonly called [see Page 4]. This farm is under the direction of Dr. ZIMMERMANN, who has one technical assistant, Werner KRAUS, a zoologist.

The farm is engaged solely in the maintenance of a snake colony and in the collection of snake venom. The snakes available include approximately 300 vipera amodytes montandoni, and lesser numbers of naia naia and crotales ferr.

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3. The venom collected is used for two purposes by Serumwerk, Dessau: (a) production of snake venom antisera at Tornau and (b) production of the pharmaceuticals epileptasid, haemostypt, vipracutan, and viprasid. The antisera is forwarded under contract to Hungary, Bulgaria and other Balkan areas, whose residents are subject to a high incidence of snake bites. In return, Hungary and Bulgaria supply Dessau with vipers.

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4. [] Serumwerk, Dessau, is the only East Zone organization which is carrying on this work. Dr. ZIMMERMANN has recently completed a study of the paper chromatographic separation of the constituents of viper antiserum. His group is the only one in the East Zone, which is engaged in the study of snake venom and snake antisera. 50X1-HUM

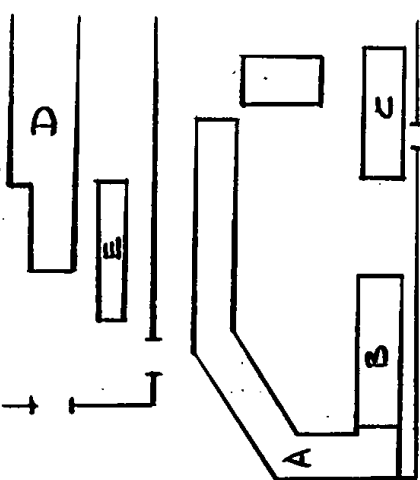
S E C R E T

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- A - Main Plant
 - B - Animal Rooms; Snake Farm
 - C - Office; Main Entrance
 - D - Research Section
 - E - Club - Barracks
- (Not to Scale)

Soviet Military Station

VEB SERUMWERK DESSAU

Garden

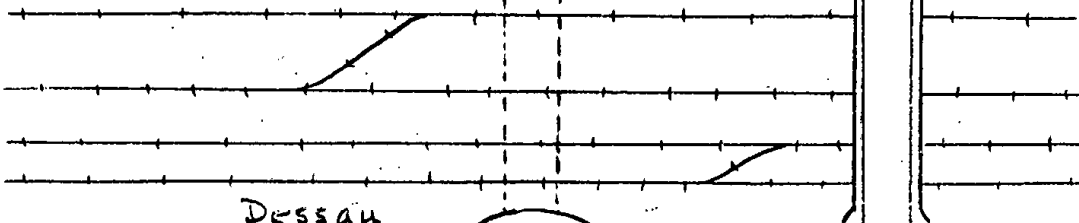
Grass-Lawn Park

200 meters

Park Str.

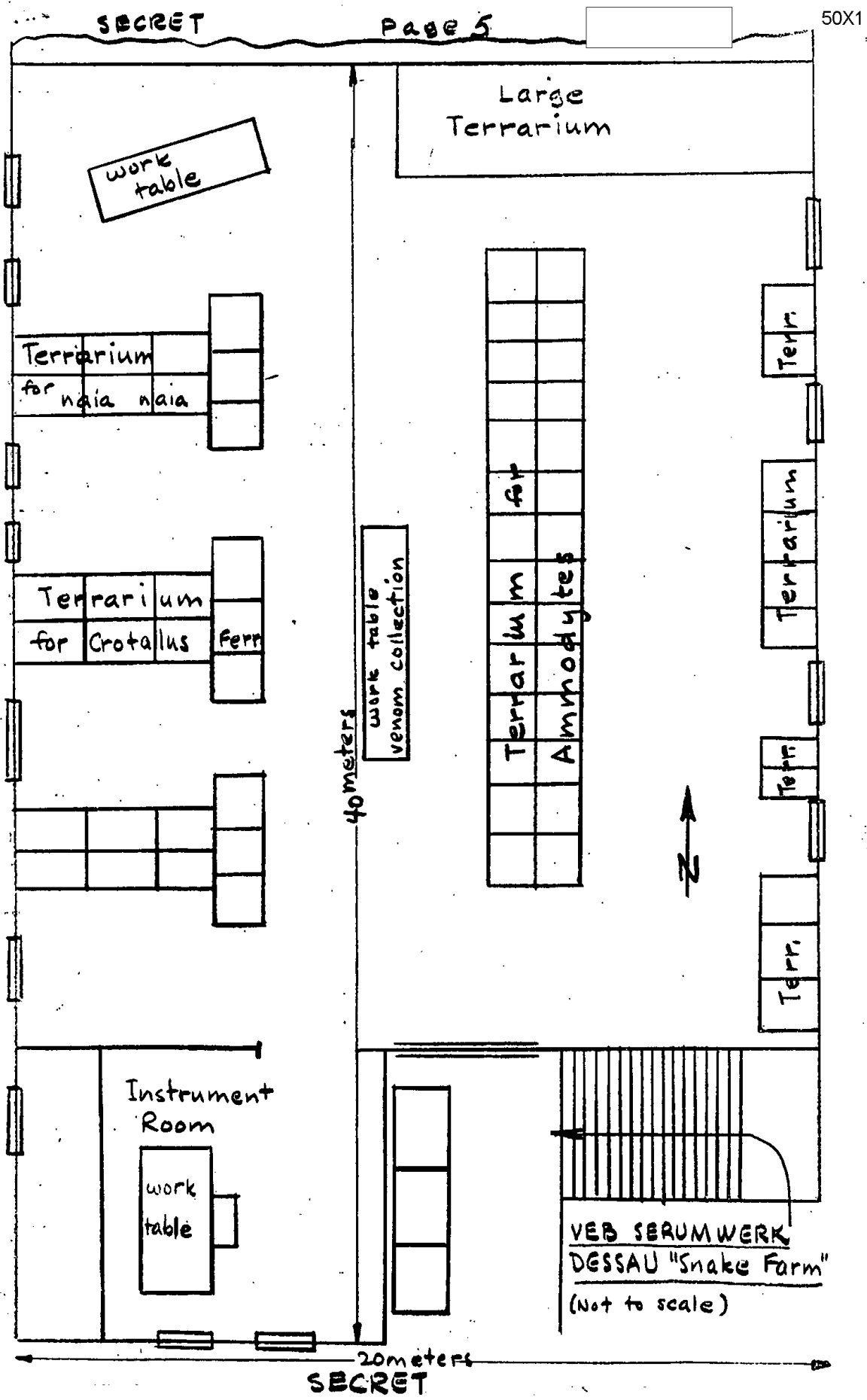
Garden

South Exit



Dessau
Railroad
Station

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| | | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|----------------|----------|
| COUNTRY | East Germany | REPORT | | 50X1 |
| SUBJECT | Additional Information on High Voltage Equipment Developed at Koch & Sterzel, Dresden | DATE DISTR. | 8 October 1953 | |
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| STATE | #x | ARMY | #x | NAVY | #x | AIR | #x | FBI | | AEC | | OST | | 50X1 |
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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY : East Germany

SUBJECT : Additional Information on High-Voltage
Equipment Developed at Koch and Sterzel, Dresden

PLACE
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DATE
ACQUIRED B

DATE OF INF

DATE DISTR. 31 AUG 53

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW) 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT 50X1-HUM
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1. In describing a high-voltage apparatus built for the Soviets by the Koch and Sterzel firm in 1949 or 1950 the Soviets set forth "special requirements for wind and storm resistance."

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The apparatus itself was designed to have "storm and wind resistance." No house was planned for the equipment.

2. The requirements were met, according to hearsay, by someone at the Technische Hochschule, Dresden. This Technische Hochschule man made all calculations and presented the design to Koch and Sterzel. The insulators for the cascade transformers were said to be designed so that they could withstand high wind. These ceramic insulators were about 50 centimeters in diameter [see Enclosure (A)]. The transformers themselves may have been designed for minimum wind resistance.

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sketch of the apparatus see Enclosures (A) and

(B) /.

After the equipment had been completed, all employees of the former Koch and Sterzel firm were given an opportunity to look at it.

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some X-ray equipment was shipped via the Deutsch Russisch Transport Gesellschaft (DERUTRA) in Dresden.

some of the X-ray equipment went by way of Brest-Litovsk and that other X-ray equipment was shipped via Stettin

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Additional Information on the High-Voltage Apparatus

there were four high-voltage cascade equipments built. The first was built during the war and produced 1.2 million volts. This was dismantled during the war, reassembled after the war and then turned over to the USSR. The second it generated perhaps 1 million volts. Arcs about 1 meter long were displayed to the workers at the plant. The accompanying circuit and drawing of the equipment see Enclosures (A) and (B) /. A third one was said to have been planned for the USSR. A fourth was built for Berlin/Buch with probably a little lower voltage, this one was for a linear particle-accelerator, whereas the other three were designed as insulator testers.

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Enclosure (A): Sketch of Apparatus

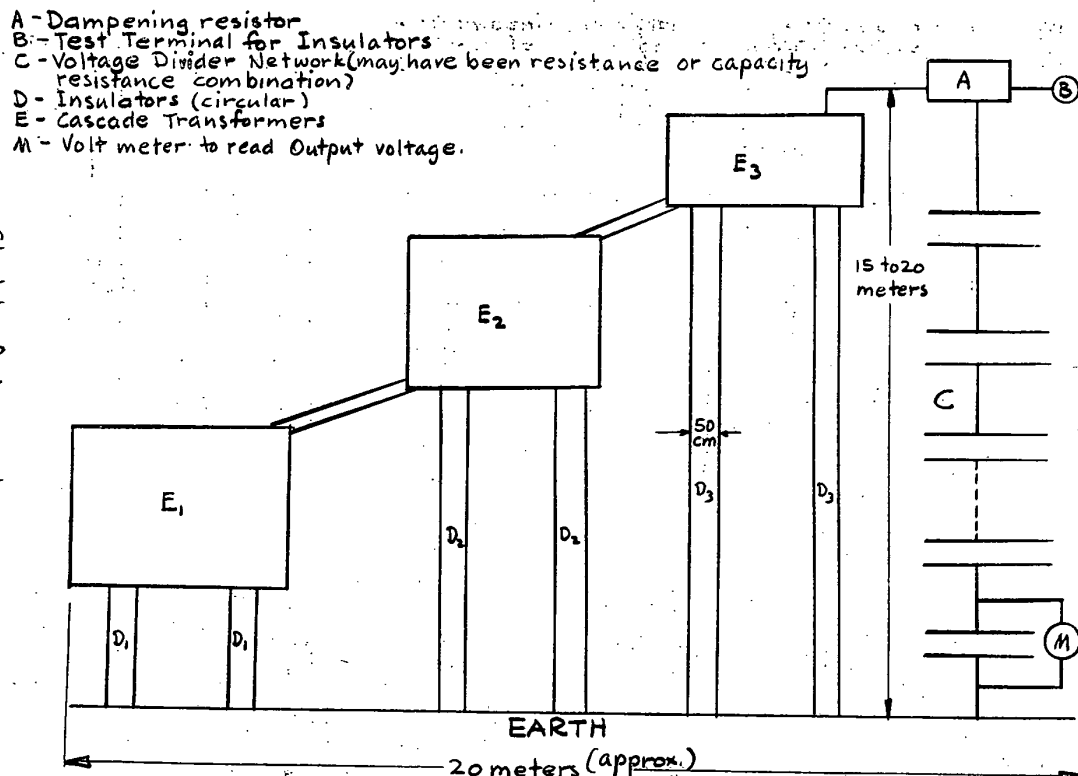
Enclosure (B): Circuit of Cascade Transformer

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Enclosure (A)

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Sketch of Apparatus

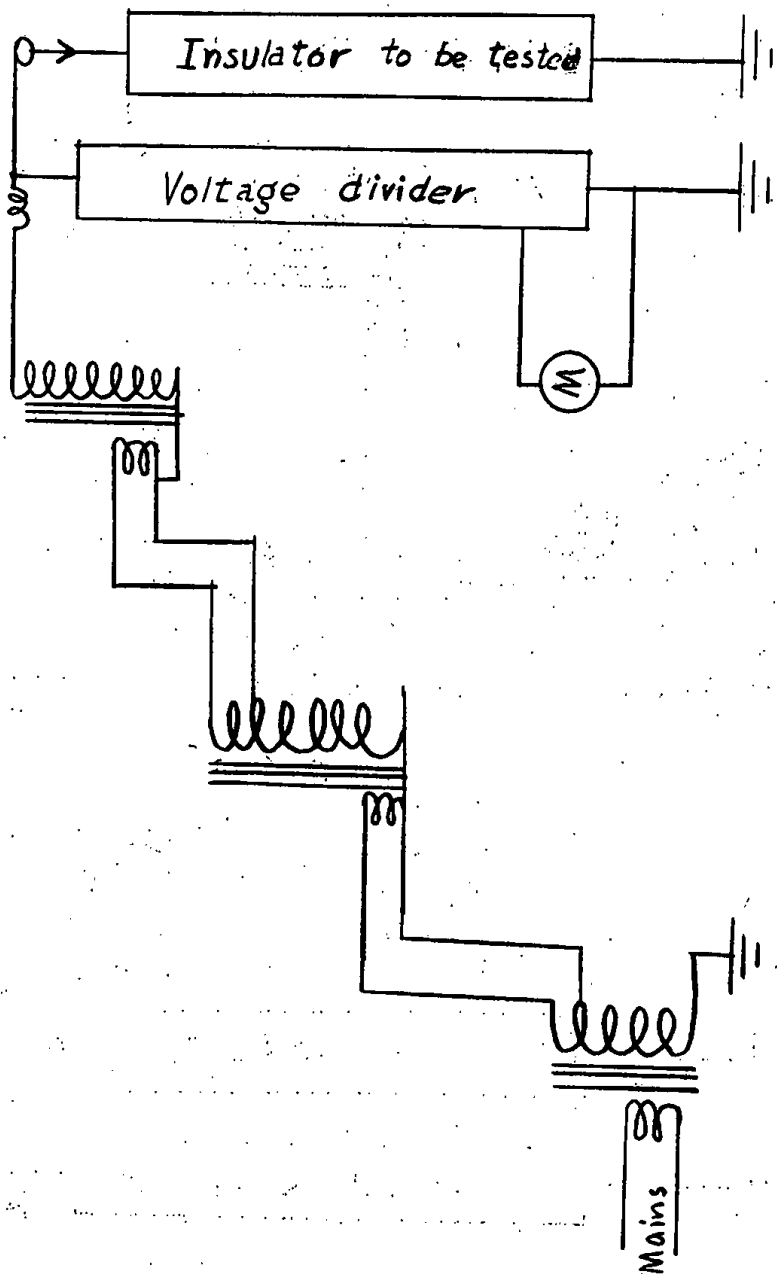


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Circuit of Cascade Transformer

Enclosure (B)

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